Westminster
Presbyterian Church
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330-263-2398 / wpcwooster@gmail.com

# Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
# October 15, 2023

**Welcome and Announcements** — **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

*Let us open our hearts and minds to the rhythm of the gathering music as it centers us in God's presence for worship.*

**Prelude** — **"Canon of Praise"** — ***Thomas Tallis***

***Pong Thiemmedh, Canoneer***

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below,***
***Praise God above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.***

***Gathering Words** — **Candy and Ferenc Relle**

*The * in the liturgy indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

1: God has called us together in community,
2: God has given us to each other to be family,
**All: to support one another in times of trouble and rejoice in times of happiness.**
1: With or without a strategic plan,
2: With or without a shiny, flashy campaign,
**All: We will love one another as we have been loved by God.**

**Opening Prayer** — **Candy Relle**

You are always all-in with us, O God.
You commit yourself,
even taking on flesh and becoming one of us
that we might grow ever closer to you.

And you invite us to be all-in with you, too,

bringing our whole selves into the journey, wherever it may lead.

May we choose to join in moving toward your future.
May the things important to you become important to us.
Give us courage to commit ourselves today: where you go, we will go.
Amen.

***Opening Hymn No. 399** **"God Welcomes All"** ***Iona/Themba Amen***

**Baptism of Rosemary Michelle Peterson** ***(please see insert)*** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

**Musical Offering** **"Waltz"** ***(Op. 12, No. 2)*** ***Edvard Grieg***

*We offer our gifts of money, talents, time, and energy—the gifts of our lives in gratitude for God's relentless love and grace for all. These gifts represent our commitment to heed God's call and join*
*God in God's mission of healing and transforming our world.*

**Prayer of Illumination** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

**Scripture Reading** **Ruth 1:1-19a**
(*Growing in God's Love – A Story Bible by Elizabeth F. Caldwell and Carol A. Wehrheim*)

Have you ever moved to a place where you didn't know anyone? If not, what do you think it would be like to live among strangers? Ruth moved from her home in Moab to a new country.

The land of Judah had no rain, no food. Elimelech took his wife Naomi and his sons Mahlon and Chilion to Moab where there was rain and food. After a few years, Elimelech died. Naomi lived in Moab alone with her sons. They married Orpah and Ruth, Moabite women. Ten years later, her sons died. Now Naomi was alone with her daughters-in-law.

Naomi heard that Judah had rain and good again. She decided to return to her hometown, Bethlehem. She, Orpah, and Ruth started the long walk to Bethlehem. "Wait," said Naomi, "you

each should go back to your mother's home. You have been faithful and good to me. May God give you husbands and children."

Orpah and Ruth hugged Naomi and cried. "We will go with you," they said.
"No, I can't do anything to help you," said Naomi.

Orpah finally did what Naomi said. She started walking back to Moab and her mother's house. But Ruth was determined to stay with Naomi. She paid no attention to Naomi's instructions. Instead she said, "I will go where you go. I will live where you live. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God. I will never leave you as long as you live."

Naomi could tell that Ruth would not change her mind. Ruth was willing to give up everything she knew. The two women walked all the way to Bethlehem together.

**Table Conversations** **Belonging and Believing**

**Hymn** **"Love is the Touch"** ***Amor Dei***

*Music/John L. Bell; Words/Alison M. Robertson*

1. Love is the touch of intangible joy;
   love is the force that no fear can destroy;
   love is the goodness we gladly applaud:
   God is where love is for love is of God.

2. Love is the lilt in a lingering voice;
   love is the hope that can make us rejoice;
   love is the cure for the frightened and flawed:
   God is where love is for love is of God.

3. Love is the light in a tunnel of pain;
   love is the will to be whole once again;
   love is the trust of a friend on the road:
   God is where love is for love is of God.

4. Love is the Maker and Spirit and Son;
   love is the kingdom their will has begun;
   love is the path which the saints all have trod:
   God is where love is, for love is of God.

Sharing of Joys and Concerns Candy and Ferenc Relle

Prayer of the people Candy and Ferenc Relle

Through the power of your Spirit and in the name of Jesus the Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying:

Our God in heaven, holy is your name.
Your kin-dom come,
Your will be done, on earth as is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kin-dom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn No. 486 "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise" *Kingdom*

Benediction Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy

Postlude "We Praise You, Our God" (*BWV 601)* *J.S. Bach*

*We praise you now, our God, with ever joyful hearts!*
*In your love that has no end may your grace on us descend;*
*Increase our faith.*

*The service continues with fellowship.*

*The Baptism Liturgy was adapted from the PCUSA Book of Common Worship. All other prayers were adapted from Rev. Teri Peterson, written for the *Bibleworm*.

*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*Music:  Tom Shaw, Bob Iams, Pong Thiemmedh
*Flowers:  Sherry Hatter-Miller
*Punch:  Barbara Tartir
*Cake:  Candy Relle

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To continue to assure the safety of all, the offering plate is located on a table in the back of the sanctuary. If you are moved to support our ministry, we invite you to place your gifts in the plate.

GIVE NOW

You may also give online through our website by clicking on the "GIVE NOW" button at the bottom of the home page. Your generosity helps us to fulfill our calling to engage in God's transformative mission in our community.

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## Upcoming Events

### Sunday, Oct. 15

- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

### Monday, Oct. 16

- Troop 61 – 6 pm – The Meeting Place

**Wednesday, Oct. 18**

- Benevolence Committee Meeting – 5.15 pm – The Meeting Place
- Immigration Justice Committee Meeting – 5 pm – The Lounge
- WPC Session Meeting – 6.30 pm – The Lounge

**Thursday, Oct. 19**

- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am – The Meeting Place
- WPC Book Group – 7 pm – Zoom

**Sunday, Oct. 22**

- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place


**Westminster Presbyterian Church**

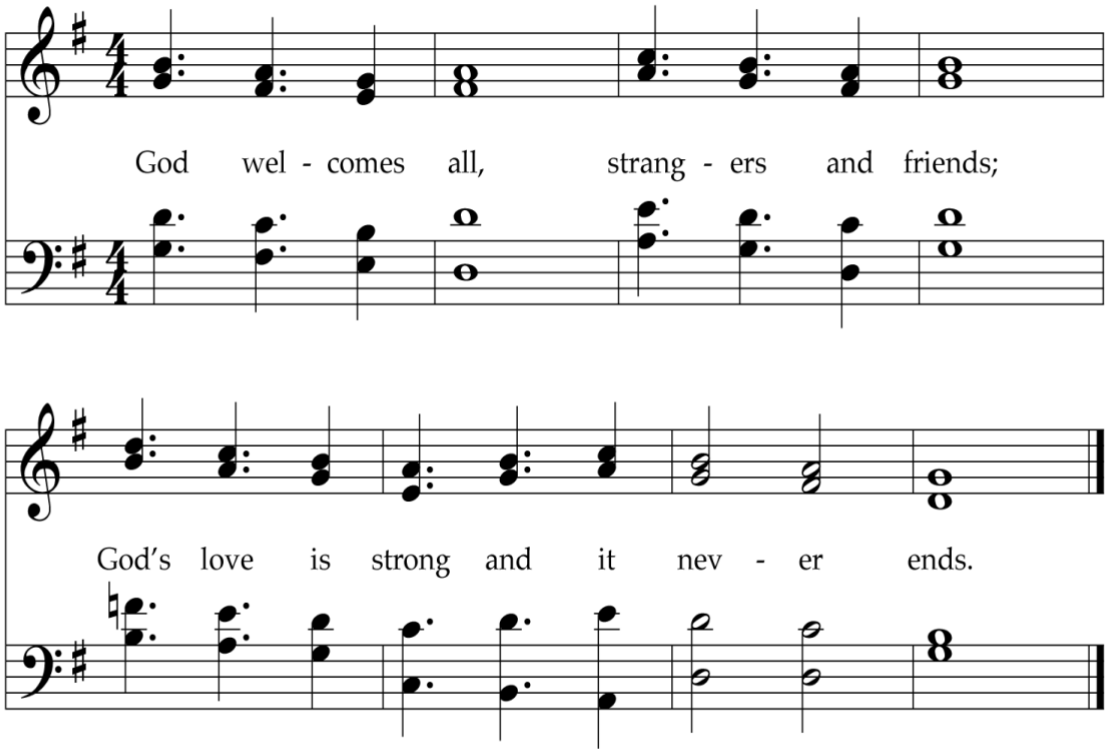
**Pastor** Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
**Minister of Music** Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
**Office Administrator** Rev. Dr. James Henery
**AV Assistant/Event Steward** Tony Mendiola
**Custodian** Kara Akers

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2.p.m.

**wpcwooster@gmail.com: 330.263.2398**
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*Westminster Presbyterian Church strives to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of ethnicity, creed, age, cultural background, gender identity, or sexual orientation.*

# God Welcomes All 399
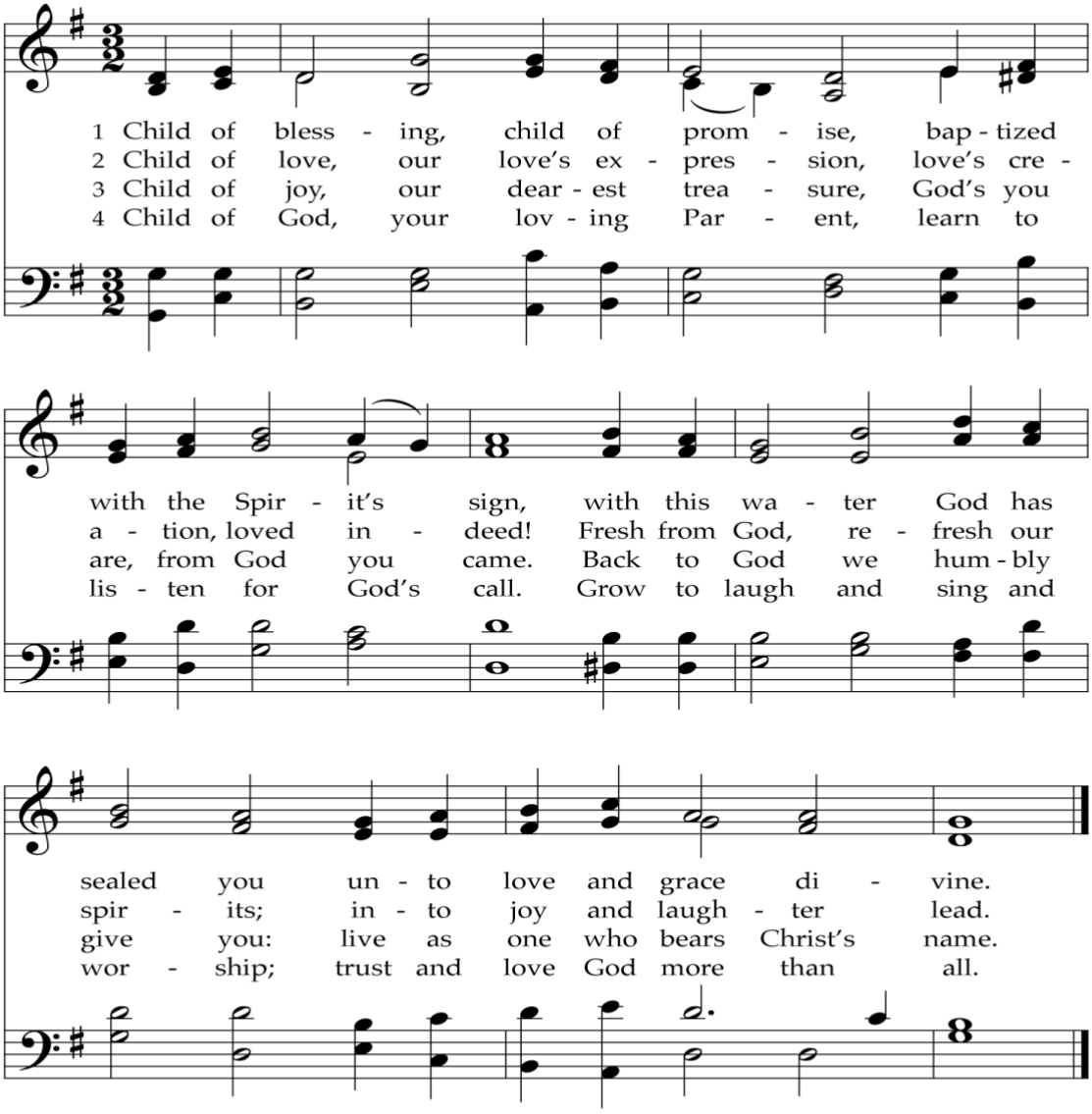



This "short song," as the Iona Community calls it, can be especially effective as a means of setting a welcoming tone for a service (especially an ecumenical one). Like most such songs, it needs to be sung several times, adding and improvising harmony with each repetition.

TEXT: John L. Bell, 2008
MUSIC: South African song; transcr. John L. Bell, 2008
*Text and Music Transcr. © 2008 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)*

THEMBA AMEN
4.4.9

BAPTISM

# 486 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise




This hymn addressed to a newly-baptized child begins each stanza with a facet of the child's identity, culminating in "child of God." By being directed to one person rather than the whole congregation, this text occupies a special category among the "songs of encouragement."

TEXT: Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1980
MUSIC: V. Earle Copes, 1959
*Text © 1981 Ronald S. Cole-Turner*

KINGDOM
8.7.8.7
(alternate tune: STUTTGART)